



# Adams County

September 2020

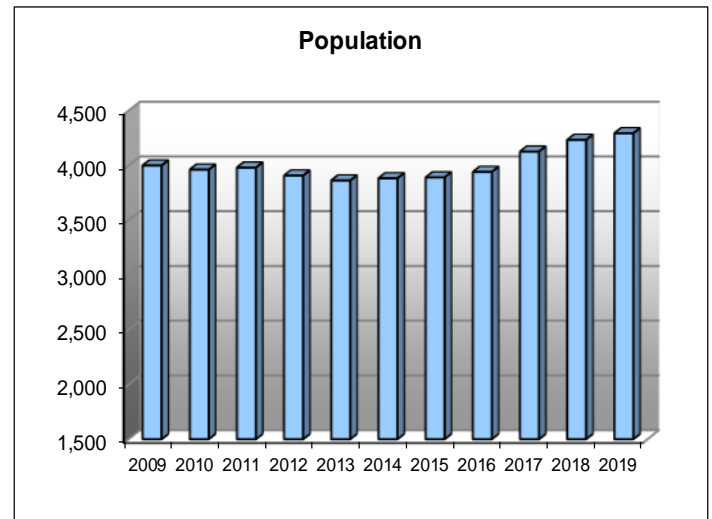
IDAHO  
DEPT. OF LABOR

## Workforce Trends

### Population

A strong economy, bolstered by growth in neighboring Valley County brought many new residents to Adams County between 2000 and 2008. The population added nearly 600 people. Then, the severe recession led to extreme problems in Valley County and people moved out of Adams County for a few years. Around 2015, population growth returned to high levels boosting the county's population to 4,294 by 2019. The net result was the county's population grew 8 percent between 2010 and 2019, while Idaho's population grew 14 percent and the U.S. population grew 6 percent.

Between 2018 and 2019, Council, the county seat, grew 1.1 percent to 894 and New Meadows grew 2.9 percent to 537.

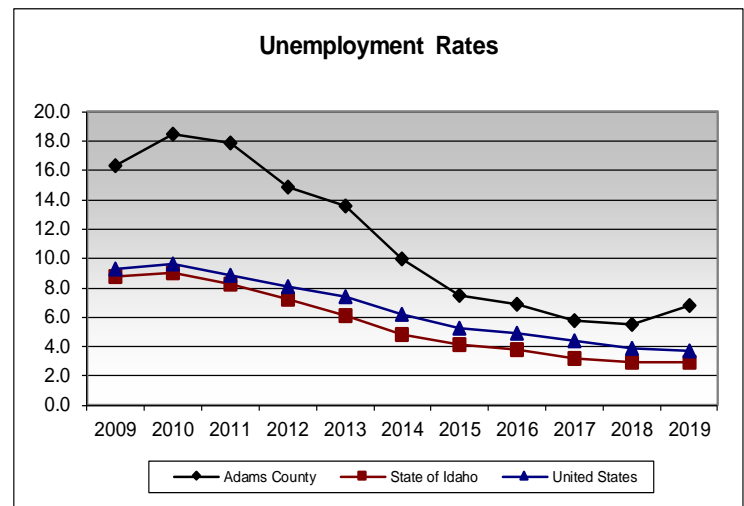


### Labor Force & Employment

Adams County continues to be natural-resource dependent. Farming, ranching, and forestry drive the economy. Mills employ more than 100 people, logging employs 40, and the Forest Service, which owns 59 percent of the county's land, employs 100.

Adams County's labor force jumped to 2,100 during the influx of workers at Tamarack Resort and surrounding developments circa 2006. When the resort shut down in 2009, the labor force steadily declined to 1,676 in 2014. The labor force grew to a high in 2017 but experienced a slight loss in employment resulting in a flat labor force. During the last few years, the nearby Tamarack resort has undertaken many construction projects..

Two additional ski areas, Brundage Mountain and the Little Ski Hill, are in the county. Fishing, hunting, whitewater and hiking, golfing and snowmobile trails draw tourists. About



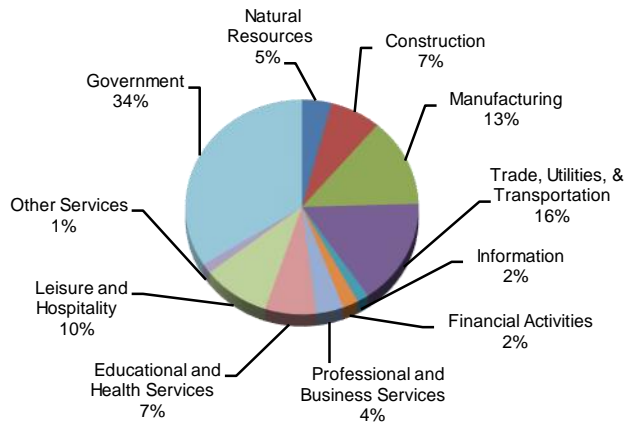
100 people work in the leisure and hospitality sector.

In 2007, the unemployment rate reached 5.8 percent, the lowest level in more than 30 years. After the recession and Tamarack's closure, the unemployment rate soared to 18.5 percent in 2010. As the economy gradually improved, in recent years, the unemployment rate steadily declined, reaching a new record low of 5.5 percent in 2018. A employment losses in 2019 pushed up the unemployment rate to 6.8 percent.

| Labor Force                 | Aug 19 | Aug 20 |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 1,718  | 1,805  |
| Total Employment            | 1,602  | 1,676  |
| Unemployed                  | 116    | 129    |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 6.8    | 7.1    |
| State of Idaho % Unemployed | 2.9    | 4.2    |
| U.S. % Unemployed           | 3.7    | 8.4    |

| Labor Force                 | 2009  | 2010  | 2011  | 2012  | 2013  | 2014  | 2015  | 2016  | 2017  | 2018  | 2019  |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 2,123 | 1,861 | 1,745 | 1,743 | 1,709 | 1,676 | 1,715 | 1,747 | 1,748 | 1,719 | 1,721 |
| Unemployment                | 347   | 345   | 312   | 260   | 233   | 167   | 128   | 121   | 101   | 95    | 117   |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 16.3  | 18.5  | 17.9  | 14.9  | 13.6  | 10.0  | 7.5   | 6.9   | 5.8   | 5.5   | 6.8   |
| Employment                  | 1,776 | 1,516 | 1,433 | 1,483 | 1,476 | 1,509 | 1,587 | 1,626 | 1,647 | 1,624 | 1,604 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2019



## Per Capita Income & Employment

Adams County's per capita income was \$37,452 in 2018. The county ranked 27th in the state and was 85 percent of the state average and 69 percent of the national average. The per capita income increased 4.2 percent from 2017. From 2009, it increased 39 percent—an increase of \$10,437.

Government is the dominant employer in Adams County, representing about third of all payroll jobs. Government and construction were the only major industrial sectors that did not experience an employment decrease in 2019. Even with as several industries experienced a decrease in wages, overall the average wage increased slightly to \$38,632, a record high. The wage decrease in the financial sector was offset by a strong increase in the information sector. Both have relatively a small employment.

## Major Employers

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| Adams County                       |
| Adams County Health Center Inc.    |
| Council School District #13        |
| Idaho Transportation Department    |
| Jerry's Auto Parts                 |
| Jl Morgan Inc. (logging)           |
| M & W Market                       |
| Meadows Valley School District #11 |
| Tamarack Municipal Assn.           |
| Tamarack Mill                      |
| Turning Point Chervon              |
| U.S. Forest Service                |

| Southwest Idaho Occupational Wages*   | Entry Wage | Median Wage |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Accountants and Auditors              | \$19.38    | \$31.44     |
| Cashier                               | \$9.15     | \$11.61     |
| Construction Laborer                  | \$12.65    | \$16.79     |
| Cooks, Restaurant                     | \$9.43     | \$12.20     |
| General & Operations Managers         | \$19.44    | \$41.81     |
| Receptionists and Information Clerks  | \$11.38    | \$14.57     |
| Logging Equipment Operator            | \$20.99    | \$22.84     |
| Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics      | \$18.23    | \$24.02     |
| Recreation Workers                    | \$8.54     | \$13.25     |
| Registered Nurses                     | \$26.79    | \$34.33     |
| Truck Driver, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer | \$15.68    | \$22.63     |
| Waiters & Waitresses                  | \$8.58     | \$11.26     |

\*Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor website at <https://lmi.idaho.gov/oes>.

| Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 2009, 2018 & 2019 | 2009               |               | 2018               |               | 2019               |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|   | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages |
| Total Covered Wages   | 1,029              | \$27,286      | 1,026              | \$37,473      | 984                | \$38,632      |
| Agriculture   | 59                 | \$34,340      | 60                 | \$45,886      | 57                 | \$47,758      |
| Mining  | 0                  | \$0           | 0                  | \$0           | 0                  | \$0           |
| Construction  | 57                 | \$18,695      | 66                 | \$36,658      | 69                 | \$34,936      |
| Manufacturing   | 36                 | \$15,947      | 157                | \$42,044      | 130                | \$45,169      |
| Trade, Utilities, & Transportation                                      | 256                | \$30,244      | 162                | \$32,595      | 155                | \$35,988      |
| Information   | **                 | **            | 12                 | \$94,832      | 16                 | \$110,243     |
| Financial Activities  | 32                 | \$29,148      | 23                 | \$48,704      | 20                 | \$33,929      |
| Professional and Business Services                                      | 49                 | \$30,049      | 50                 | \$34,355      | 37                 | \$34,192      |
| Educational and Health Services   | 39                 | \$24,334      | 68                 | \$38,919      | 67                 | \$41,218      |
| Leisure and Hospitality   | 162                | \$14,624      | 95                 | \$13,244      | 92                 | \$13,996      |
| Other Services  | 10                 | \$21,696      | 16                 | \$26,724      | 14                 | \$26,815      |
| Government  | 324                | \$32,439      | 318                | \$41,256      | 327                | \$40,686      |

| Per Capita Income | 2009     | 2010     | 2011     | 2012     | 2013     | 2014     | 2015     | 2016     | 2017     | 2018     |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Adams County      | \$27,015 | \$27,922 | \$29,303 | \$31,090 | \$31,884 | \$33,740 | \$36,034 | \$37,412 | \$35,945 | \$37,452 |
| State of Idaho    | \$31,186 | \$31,957 | \$33,515 | \$35,188 | \$36,200 | \$37,896 | \$39,857 | \$40,670 | \$42,094 | \$43,901 |
| United States     | \$39,284 | \$40,546 | \$42,735 | \$44,599 | \$44,851 | \$47,058 | \$48,978 | \$49,870 | \$51,885 | \$54,446 |